Welcome to AP World History. This class will not only acquaint you with the trends, similarities, and differences concerning 10,000 years of world history, but this class will also help improve your academic skills. This combination of class content and skills will culminate in your taking the AP World History exam at the end of the school year and this class is designed to prepare you for that exam.

This course is organized by chronological units, but should be thought of in three different ways:

**Chronological Units: Historical Periods and Specific Content**
1. Origins: Everything up to 1200 C.E.
2. The Global Tapestry and Exchange: 1200 - 1450
3. Empires and Transoceanic Interconnections: 1450 - 1750
4. Revolution and Industrialization: 1750 - 1900
5. Modernity: 1900 - Present

**Course Themes: Big Picture Ideas**
1. Social Interaction and Organization (Social)
2. Governance (Political)
3. Humans and the Environment (Interaction with Environment)
4. Cultural Development and Interaction (Culture)
6. Technology and Innovation (Tech)

**Historical Thinking Skills: Ways of Thinking About Both the Periods and the Themes**

Almost everything you will do involves making a historical argument by interpreting historical evidence.

You will make arguments about:
1. Historical **causation**
2. Historical **comparison**
3. Historical **change and continuity over time**.

No matter what type of argument you will make, you will always need to provide the **context** for the argument.

**Materials Needed:**
- Writing Utensil
- Loose Leaf Paper
- Folder or Binder Space - DEVOTED TO AP WORLD HISTORY ONLY
- Textbook - *Ways of the World* 2nd Ed. by Robert W. Strayer
Grades:  
Grades will be based on three categories:  
Homework (40%) – This category includes all homework and small quizzes. I consider all the work in this category practice for the unit assessment. Some of this work will be checked in and not accepted late. Some of this work will take the form of homework quizzes and will not be accepted late. Some of the work in this category will be collected for thorough grading, which I will accept late for a 20% per calendar day deduction.  
Assessments (40%) – This category will include the major exams, papers, and projects that will end each of our units. Papers and projects that are turned in late will receive a 20% per calendar day deduction.  
Participation (20%) – This category is based on your level of participation in the class as a whole including, but not limited to, large class discussions and small group interaction. This category also includes in-class work.  
After all these categories are determined your semester grade will based on the traditional scale:  
A 90%-100%  
B 80%-89%  
C 70%-79%  
D 60%-69%  
F 0%-59%  
Extra Credit: Extra credit will be made available for each unit and in most cases will be distributed at the end of the semester in the form of percentage points added to the final grade. Think of extra credit as final grade insurance rather than “points.”  
Attendance:  
I expect you to be in class. If you are not, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and to make up the work.  
Contact Information: Nick Caltagirone (630) 876-6452 ncaltagirone@d94.org  
I encourage students and parents/guardians to contact me regarding any questions or concerns. E-mail is my preferred method of communication, but I do check voicemail on a daily basis as well. Also, I encourage students and parents to use Google Classroom and PowerSchool in order to check grades and see due dates for larger assignments and quizzes/tests.